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131/1/13

21 Mar 89

MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL RADIOACTIVITY MONITORING - INLAND WATERS

Reference:

A. Meeting JAMES (ScNuc1)/FULLER(DRPS) 9 March 89

1. At Reference A DRPS were asked to comment on the feasibility and cost of carrying out environmental radioactivity surveys on the north-west coast of Scotland and/or the Outer Hebrides.
2. It is confirmed that the surveys are entirely feasible. DRPS already carry out a full programme of such surveys around submarine berths both in the UK and abroad.
3. A survey would comprise environmental dose-rate measurements on the shoreline together with collection of shoreline sediment and biological (seaweed, shellfish etc) samples. Samples of locally caught sea-food would also be required. The samples would be analysed on return to DRPS.
4. The cost per survey is estimated at £2-3k depending upon the precise locations involved.
5. It would be essential to begin the programme early in order to obtain a reliable baseline. Quarterly or even more frequent surveys may be appropriate initially but it should be possible to extend the interval assuming consistent (background) results are obtained.

Dr D FULLER  
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for Head of DRPS

Information:

AD/ScNuc1

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